

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 21:32:09 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 17:32:09 -0400 (EDT)
From: Jeff Shelton <jshelton@cais.cais.com>
Subject: "Hotel portable" power supply & antenna?
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950512172016.25493A-100000@cais3.cais.com>

Greetings QRP folks,

Any thoughts on the best 12-14 volt power supply for QRP work? I'm traveling a lot by plane these days and want to take my ARK 4 along to work from the hotel room. I use a gel-cell at home, but would rather avoid batteries for this, as getting them around in the airport is a hassle at best. So, what's a good, well-filtered, reasonably light power supply that's good for an amp or so at 12v?

As for "hotel antennas" - I'd figured on a random wire and a small tuner, and trying for a room on the top floor - the old "wire out the window trick." Anyone have a better idea?

Thanks & 73,
Jeff - KS4TL
jshelton@cais.com
Manassas, VA

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 11:58:19 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 07:58:19 -0400
From: Brad Mitchell <bmitchel@cba.kodak.com>
Message-Id: <199505121158.AA00962@hobby1.cba.kodak.com>
Subject: 30 Meter Field Day

Gee with all the talk that I've seen on here about 30 meters,
Why not have a qrp break during field day on 30 meters..

Ok maybe that's what you guys have been talking about all along..
I admit, I have been out of QRP touch as of late..

Maybe we could Talk about what equipment we are running.. at least tell the other hams we contact what type of rig we are running , homebrew or other.. I don't think that would offend anybody.

I don't know about you all, but taking an hour out of the blasting of signals on FD might be fun??

73

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|  _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ |   Bradley S. Mitchell Senior Project Development Engineer  
| | / / / / / / / / |   Eastman Kodak Company  
| | / / / / / / / / |   KEMD Electronic Products  
| | < < K O D A K | |   Circuit Board Assembly Dept. 606 Test Engineering
```

| | \ \ | | 901 Elmgrove Road Rochester, N.Y. 14653-5211
| | _ \ \ _ _ _ _ _ | | (716) 726-5775, FAX (716) 726-7109
| | _ _ _ _ _ | | INTERNET: bmitchel@kodak.com
----- Amateur Radio Callsign WB8YGG

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 18:20:33 1995
Message-Id: <9505121820.AA03387@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>
Date: Fri, 12 May 95 14:20:33 EDT
From: Bill Acito 12-May-1995 1416 <acito@asdg.enet.dec.com>
Subject: re: 30 Meter Field Day

"bmitchel@CBA.Kodak.COM" "Brad Mitchell" wrote on
12-MAY-1995 14:18:34.72

|Gee with all the talk that I've seen on here about 30 meters,
|Why not have a qrp break during field day on 30 meters..

Nice idea... contacts are usually getting scare on 40 Sunday
morning. How 'bout right when Field Day closes? Have an 'activity
hour' then?

Only one caveat... one more antenna to throw up in the trees.
:-)

b

. - I own my own words -

Bill Acito	d i g i t a l
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com	Digital Semiconductor - Fab 6
	Hudson, MA
kc1gs (qrp-ne #260, arrl life)	

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 16:33:02 1995
From: LeeW5TEH@aol.com
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 12:33:02 -0400

Message-Id: <950512120636_116347039@aol.com>

Subject: 30 mtr propagation

Hello gang,

For those of you who missed my "dx spot" here last night (I got some sort of overflow error message) I was hoping to get some fast word out on good dx conditions - even for qrp.

The upcoming "qrp 30 mtr propagation study" shows good promise if conditions are anything like last night! 1,000 miles per watt was certainly doable. My thanks to all the guys who are working this idea up.

I am new to this list and at first look about 90% of the traffic seems to be about construction.....hopefully that doesn't mean at the expense of on the air time.

Heard other QRPers calling dx last night but don't know how they did.....unfortunately some were in pileups. I know many of you are experienced dxers and/or contest operators, but let me offer some pointers for those of you who are not.....chasing dx with qrp can make you grow old fast even if you know the ropes.

First, the old adage: listen, listen, listen is always true. 30 meters is a very good band because when you hear a dx station call cq or even during one of his first two or three qsos (especially if he is not really rare) there aren't often many stations there to hear him! Last night I was the first reply for two station's cqs (maybe the ONLY station to reply to their first cq) which made it a lot easier. Sure, one gave me a 519 and the other got my call as W5TES (....old tin ears, hi.)

Second, unless you have a lot more time and stamina than I do, don't bother to call when you start hearing multiple stations calling the dx. Yes, we have all gotten through the big pileups on occasions but you better have a large thermos of coffee and something to eat nearby. And on the same theme, don't even think of watching DX packet spots....Every time they list something hot the 1,000 watts per mile guys are all over the frequency.....that's the time for the qrp'er to be looking at the other freqs. The dx on 30 works from the bottom of the band to at least 10122 Khz.

By the way, there is a German cw beacon somewhere around 10142 khz I think I forget the particulars (power) etc. but as I recall it is a pretty modest setup and is weaker than a lot of the European stations that are operating lower in the band at the same time. Yet I hear the beacon at least R4 or R5 frequently here in RI on a "broken" trap dipole.

Sometimes the code speed for dx chasing can be daunting.....30-35 wpm is not unusual.....but those are also the guys who usually give your call and 5NN

bk.....besides they often don't want to try to ragchew with a truly 339 signal. So its usually not like copying text.

Enuff for the encouragement....lets show what qrp can do this summer on 30 meters.

CU there!

72/73 LeeW5TEH@aol.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu May 11 16:29:35 1995
Message-Id: <MAILQUEUE-101.950511122935.256@rcadmin.nov.add.bn1.gov>
From: "Nick Franco - KF2PH" <NICKF@rcadmin.nov.add.bn1.gov>
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 12:29:35 EDT
Subject: Re: 30M again

Chuck,

Thanks!

vy 72/73 . .

Nick/KF2PH - NE#349

Nick Franco - RHIC Computer/Network Support
Building 1005 2nd Floor Rm. 201
UPTON, N.Y. 11973-5000 U.S.A.
tel:(516)282-5467 fax:(516)282-3674

Ham Call: KF2PH QRP-NE # 349

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 21:23:26 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 14:23:26 -0700
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Message-Id: <199505122123.0AA06000@netcom14.netcom.com>
Subject: 455 kHz filters arrived

I bought a couple of filters from AES (the \$6.95 455 kHz kenwood YG455S1 filters). Does anyone have available technical specs for the filter beyond the small slip of paper in the box (just center frequency and passband freq/dB)?

Thanks,

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

P.S., I plan to use one of these with an EPIPHYTE, but the filter is rather large (like one of the old heathkit SSB filters) so it will have to be mounted off-board.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 17:22:38 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 13:22:38 -0400 (EDT)
From: Pat Franzis <franzis@gdc.com>
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505121352.A6508-01000000@esun212>

Hi Qrp'ers,

I recently got into QRP this January. I built the Oak Hills Spirit for for 40 meters. When I started using it in January I was making contacts here and there and keeping myself happy. Now it seems that no matter how persistent I am, I can't make a contact. My question to you QRP ops with a lot of experience: Is 40 Meters generally a tougher QRP band when spring rolls around, or is the noise floor unusually high lately? Can you offer any tips on when is the best time to use this band?

Please offer some words of encouragement or suggestions. My antenna is a 40m Inverted V at about 35' center.

Thanks! -Pat N10CJ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 21:21:08 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 95 14:21:08 PDT
Message-Id: <9505122121.AA12435@chronology.com>
From: dcscott@chronology.com (Dale C. Scott)
Subject: accessory

Hi Gang --

Just discovered a great accessory. It is a plastic holder intended to stick on the side of a computer monitor to hold a mouse. It comes with double back tape for installation. CHEAP, light weight, and works great for HT's, mikes, etc.

73's

Dale
KC7KHD

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  --\      /  
  ----\  / Dale C. Scott          EMAIL: dcscott@chronology.com  
  -----\ / CHRONOLOGY CORPORATION  TEL: (206)869-4227 x110  
  -----/\ 8405 165th Avenue NE      TEL: (800)800-6494 x110  
  ----/  \ Redmond, WA 98052          FAX: (206)869-4229  
  -/-----\  
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From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 19:43:13 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 15:43:13 -0400 (EDT)
From: Richard Haynes <rhaynes@explorer.csc.com>
Subject: Callsign and Geo. servers
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950512150531.3491A-100000@explorer.csc.com>

I hope the following will be of help to some people. This is a result of trying for the 1000 mile award. (Only go 890 with my first contact on the NC40A I built 8^).

I found the "Callsign Servers" www page. It has a list of fourteen (14) servers that use forms, telnet, or e-mail access. The Univ of Ark. at Little Rock claims to update daily using the FCC "dump" files!!

The page is <http://www.cc.columbia.edu/~fuat/cuarc/callsign-servers.html>

(If you can not access a webb reader I will be glad to mail you the)
(list of servers. Send requests to me and not the qrp list.)

The sites work using GUI www stuff or "lynx" the non-GUI. This will let both ends of the spectrum use the servers.

I also found a server that will provide latitude and longitude data for the US. Use a gopher, lynx or whatever to access it at:

<gopher://cwis.rice.edu:1103/1geo>

Now if I can find a geo server for e-mail the whole QRP-L group will

have access to the needed info for "IQ130" log.

73's Richard

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-----  
| Richard Haynes _____ Reply to: rhaynes@explorer.csc.com |  
| the comments and opinions are my own and not those of CSC et al. |  
-----  
| N5QXF____QRP-ARCI____NorCal 601____NorTex QRP |  
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From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 21:06:48 1995
From: "Richard Hieber" <SZ0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 14:53:13 MET
Subject: Clubs List V0.98, Friedrichshafen
Message-Id: <AF9CB90245@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>

Hi gang,

I just posted a new version (V0.98) of the QRP Clubs List to the Usenet newsgroup rec.radio.amateur.misc. You can look for it there, it will probably show up soon on Steve Hideg's Web Server and you can request it by sending an email to me.

I've added the Durham Region QRP Club, the YO-QRP Club and the GW QRP Club. The person who told me about the YO-QRP Club hasn't replied yet to my more specific questions, so there are a lot of blanks in this entry.

Can anyone tell me anything about the WI QRP Club? Is it still alive? If I don't get any feedback on this I have to assume that this effort has folded ...

One list member announced that he wants to supply info on NorTex. I'm looking forward to receiving it and will include it in the next revision.

Now to a different topic: From June 23rd to 25th there will be the "HamRadio" convention in Friedrichshafen, Germany, at the lake Constance. Like last year, the G-QRP Club will be represented with a small booth. Last year they shared it with the OK QRP Club (Czech Republic). I hope to be there (at the meeting, not the booth) the whole three days and it sure would be nice to meet people from the list in person. Anyone planning to come over? It's the second largest ham radio event after Dayton ...

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(^ ^)
+-----o00--()--00o---+
| Vy 72 de Richard (DL8MFQ @ DB0SIF.DEU.EU) in Erlangen |
+-----+
alias AA8CP G-QRP #7417 AGCW-DL #2168
Internet: <sz0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>

--
Richard Hieber, DL8MFQ/AA8CP
sz0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu May 11 13:09:41 1995
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 06:09:41 -0700 (PDT)
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Re: Dan's Small Parts
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950511060924.1145B-100000@crl9.crl.com>

I think Dan must still be on a "Walkabout"

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 06:20:13 1995
From: K8DD@aol.com
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 02:20:13 -0400
Message-Id: <950511224507_115792644@aol.com>
Subject: Re: Dayton Hamvention Swap Ta...

Watch QST, CQ, 73, WorldRadio, etc for the first Dayton Hamvention
advertisement. There has been an order blank for tickets for the Hamvention,
the banquet, and flea market spaces. The flea market spaces are sometimes a
lottery if you want more than one space. As far as I know, that is the only
way to get a space out back.
I'm not sure how to go about getting a table inside, but be sitting down when
they tell you how much that 8 or 9 ft space inside is!
73 Hank K8DD
 MI QRP vp

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 13 03:06:09 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 20:06:09 -0700 (PDT)
From: "Hal R. Waite" <halwaite@netcom.com>

Subject: FS: Atlas R110/T110 CW/SSB QRP Station
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505121958.A17652-01000000@netcom14>

The above item is a qrp station manufactured by Atlas in very limited quantity some years ago. They were famous for the 210X/215X which ran about 100 watts from 12 volts.

These two units may be powered from the built-in AC supply or an external 12V DC supply. The receiver may be used without the transmitter but the transmitter cannot be used without the receiver. Power output on either CW or SSB is approximately six watts with built-in RIT and a narrow filter for CW or the usual filter for SSB. A complete station in a very small package with Atlas quality and is mint and in perfect condition in every way, electrically and cosmetically. Comes with both manuals. \$350.

Hal K4GFI/7 Las Vegas halwaite@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 11:30:28 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 06:30:28 -0500 (CDT)
From: TCJC Library <tcjcslib@metronet.com>
Subject: HAMCOM Fleamarket Table
Message-Id: <Pine.HPP.3.90.950512061809.29572A-100000@fohnix.metronet.com>

I'll post more details soon, but for those interested we're supposed to have several indoor flea market tables reserved at Hamcom in the Arlington [tx] convention center June 9-11. We'll use the tables for displaying info on QRPARCI and NORTEX QRP Clubs, as a general rallying point, and for members to sell personal gear. If interested in selling gear and/or booth setting, please contact me. I say we're supposed to be indoors, but I haven't been able to confirm this yet. We had request number three or four and they're supposed to go by order received, but this is a strangely run organization - for instance even though I sent copies of the article on QRPARCI to them and posted a copy on their bulletin board it mysteriously did not appear in the hamcom newsletter -
grrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr.

ORP Events

Sat June 10 room M-1 at 9am Chuck Adams will speak on qrp state of the art and kitbuilding.

Sat evening - we'll meet at a local restaurant for dinner [informal]

Sun, June 11 room M-1 from 9-11am QRP Forum. I know Chuck and Cam will be there, we'll introduce them and any other QRPARCI board or committee members and in true forum fashion we'll talk about any QRP subjects the

audience wishes to discuss -- solar, gel-cell recharge, kits, antennas, etc

73 and hope to see you at HAMCOM in June 'Doc' W5TB

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 04:32:37 1995
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 23:32:37 -0500
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <199505120432.XAA03664@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: HootOwl Coming Up Soon

QRP ARCI Hoothowl Sprint

Date: May 28, 1995
Time: 2000-2400 LOCAL TIME

Exchange:

If you are member of ARCI - RST, State/Province/Country, ARCI Number
If not member of ARCI - RST, State/Province/Country, Power Out

QSO Points:

Member = 5 points
Non-Member, Different Continent = 4 points
Non-Member, Same Continent = 2 points

Multiplier:

SPC (State/Province/Country) total for all bands. The same station may be worked on more than one band for QSO points and SPC credit.

Power Multiplier:

0-250mW = 15
250mW-1W = 10
1W-5W = 7
over 5W = 1

Suggested Frequencies:

	General	Novice
160 Meters	1810 KHz	

80 Meters	3560 KHz	3710 KHz
40 Meters	7040 KHz	7110 KHz
20 Meters	14060 KHz	
15 Meters	21060 KHz	21110 KHz
10 Meters	28060 KHz	28110 KHz
6 Meters	50060 KHz	

Score:

Points(total for all bands) x SPCs(total for all bands) x
Power Multiplier + Bonus Points

Entry may be All-Band, Single Band, Hi-Band(20M,15M,10M & 6M) or Lo-Band(160M,80M, & 40M). Certificates to the top three scores, to the top score in each Single-Band, Lo-Band and Hi-Band class, and to the top score in each class in each SPC. The contest manager reserves the right to recognize special significant entries with a certificate award.

Entry includes a copy of the logs and a separate summary sheet. Include duplicate check sheets with entries of 100 QSOs or more. Indicate total time-on-the-air, and include a legible name, call, QRP ARCI Number (if any) and address.

All entries must be received within 30 days of the contest date. Late entries will be counted as check logs. Members and non-members indicate their output power for each band. The highest power used will determine the power multiplier. Output power is considered as 1/2 of input power.

Include a description of homebrew equipment, commercial equipment, and antennas used with each entry. Homebrew bonus points may not be claimed if a description is not included with the entry.

Send an SASE for a summary and sample log sheets. Include an SASE with your entry for a copy of the results. Results will be published in the next available issue of the QRP ARCI Quarterly.

The final decision on all matters concerning the contests rests with the contest manager. Send entries via E-Mail to CamQRP@aol.com, or by mail to: Cam Hartford, N6GA, 1959 Bridgeport Ave., Claremont, CA 91711

-----END OF TEXT from QRP ARCI April 1995-----

I just typed it in as it was in the Quarterly.

Note that the time is very important. It is local time and varies from time zone to time zone. It's an interesting concept. Think about this. If you work someone in a Time Zone where they are during their time slot and you are not, they get points and you don't. If the propagation isn't right and then it comes in later, you could do the sportsman like thing and give them points. Remember this on dups too. It's a dup for you, but it might not be for them.

No mention of what consists of bonus points. Hopefully HB, but we'll let Cam clarify that in a posting here.

I am pretty sure, if you accurately measure your output power, that will work. If not, then you measure your input power to final PA. Surely we're not going to count receiver power too. :-)
For the newbies, this old method of 50 per cent of the input power is assumed to go out to the antenna is from the class-A amp days. Not always true, but it is easy to measure and all that.

I have the log forms at the ftp site and will give you instructions on how to get them first part of next week. Will have to work on the summary form. I had one, but hey it disappeared sometime in the last two years. One of those strange things that happens with computers and 4GB of "stuff". I will fax them to Cam also to make sure that they meet his critical eye. :-)

I just hear Ernie, W8MVN, on 40M. If you are going to do 40M only, I can tell you from previous experience he is going to be very very hard to beat. He didn't hear me but he did hear Ray, W5XE, in El Paso TX. I also worked Ray and his 4W.

Note this is a contest. :-) There are two more and I or someone else will post them as the time approaches. I promise that my posts will drop off significantly next week. :-)

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 12:42:34 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 07:42:34 -0500 (CDT)
From: Bob Howle <bhowle@freud.inst.com>
Subject: Re: How to cure J-38 walking

Message-Id: <Pine.SOL.3.90.950512073731.13712A-100000@freud>

I've been following this thread for a couple of days and would like to offer my cure for things that walk off of the operating table.

There's a *great* no slip - no skid material sold at R.V. outlets and a places like Wal-Mart. This material was designed to keep items from sliding around on smooth surfaces - i.e. plates on a smooth formica table while a R.V. is in motion. You can buy a couple of yards of this stuff for under a dollar and it works great.

I've cut a swath and placed it under my J-38 and others and have had no further problems with keyer creep.

Try it - You'll like it!

Bob / WA4ZID

On Wed, 10 May 1995 cebik@utkvx.utk.edu wrote:

> I have used the J-38 reversal successfully. I also use an old fashioned
> desk blotter and holder at the operating position. Then glued a piece of
> blotter to the bottom of the J-38 base. Blotter on blotter stays put.
> Current blotter piece is ten years old, so it pretty durable for the
> cost. However, not suited to operating out in the rain. But then,
> neither am I.
> -73-
> LB, W4RNL
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 00:28:56 1995
Date: Thu, 11 May 95 17:28:56 MST
From: gervaj@master.lds-az.loral.com (Joe Gervais)
Message-Id: <9505120028.AA27364@master.lds-az.loral.com>
Subject: Re: IQ130

Brian (brian.carling@acenet.com) wrote:

>
> CA>I didn't expect so many complaints ...
>
> I didn't see ANY complaints. I saw a few suggestions about
> some minor changes you could have made!

Just a reminder to a few folks - alot of private email gets exchanged between list members, which is as it should be. Saves bandwidth, and spares the list from having to hear much of my incessant chatter. :)

As a result, just because you didn't see it on the list doesn't necessarily mean someone didn't get an mailbox full of stuff.

And now that you got me talking, the builders poured the foundation of our (soon to be) new home today. I'm planning to operate field day from the lot. Heck, no plumbing or electricity - it counts as a field location, right? :)

Now I just have to figure the best place to put that 30 ft. flagpole. Want to make sure a nice 40m dipole/ "guy wire" fits well. Think I could even fit one for 80m...

Hope to be back on the air soon!

7.3 de KD6PRD/7,

-Joe
gervaj@master.lds-az.loral.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 03:16:39 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 23:16:39 -0400
Message-Id: <950511223052_115772641@aol.com>
Subject: Re: j-38 moving around in shack

Hi Dave,

Speaking of Navy style knobs for a straight key. The Kent key people at Dayton were selling Navy style knobs for 2 bucks, including the 5 mm threaded rod about a 1/2" long to secure it to the key. What a buy. Its bigger than the real Navy knob but they arent available anymore. Anyhow, the Kent knobs might be avail mail order.

72, Byron WA8LCZ ex Navy Radioman

(even then, i used a semi-iambic Vibroflex)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 15:05:43 1995
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 11:05:43 -0400
Message-Id: <950512110539_116287901@aol.com>
Subject: Re: made by MFJ.

I can't resist my 2 cents, even though I talk too much. My brand new MFJ antenna tuner mystified me several months ago by being unable to tune anything! So, reluctantly, I took out the screws and opened the cabinet on this new piece of equipment. It turned out the top coil of the airwound is supposed to be insulated from the rest of the turns, as it carries the rf from the front of the box across the box to the back. It was bent down, shorting to the tuning coil itself, effectively putting all rf into the coil with no place else to go. Lucky I didn't try to tune up my Yaesu into it. I called MFJ to complain about the sloppy design/assembly of the tuner. A dullard took my info, and I never heard from them again. Meanwhile, for what it's worth, the tuner works great now that I fixed it myself. Can you imagine some poor Novice getting that box? Nevertheless, I note that MFJ fills an important niche. None of the big manufacturers makes cheap QRP rigs, cheap tuners, cheap keyers, etc. And they do guarantee their stuff--and will fix it, though you get the aggravation and pay the postage. Reminds me of those super-cheap keys I reported on (am anxiously awaiting the paddles--due maybe late next week--will report findings). Whaddya expect for the money, Collins? Well, I do expect the stuff to work, period. I'll try to shut up for a day or two now. Preston WJ2V

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 20:35:02 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 16:35:02 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <950512163502.202540ee@carib.vf.mmc.com>
Subject: Re: made by MFJ.

Whew, I guess I've been lucky with the MFJ stuff I've used. I own one of the 9040 rigs and, until, I got a NORCAL 40A, it was the rig I alway kept in my car for portable use. The only difficulties I've encountered with it were when I had poor antenna VSWR or low battery voltage. No problems with loose hardware or intermittents in 20k+ miles of bouncing around in the van.

A club I belong to bought (at my prompting) an MFJ-249 Antenna Analyzer. It has worked flawlessly since its purchase in spite of my rough usage, use at Field Day, lending out to other club members and use in an antenna course I

taught.

The only less-than satisfactory experience I've had with one of their products was with an noise bridge. And that was a design and calibration problem. The dial is not properly calibrated, it has letters on it with a frequency-calibrated chart. But it did work.

My impression is that the MFJ stuff is reasonable commercial quality, although not always very state-of-the-art sophisticated in design. On the other hand, in my experience, it works as advertised and is affordable.

Also, except for the antenna analyzer they have always been very good about providing usable, if somewhat simple manuals and schematic diagrams.

Just my 2 mw.

72/73,

Joe E. N2CX

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 21:28:26 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 16:28:26 -0500
From: seront@seism1.ess.sunysb.edu (Bernard Seront)
Subject: Re: made by MFJ.
Message-Id: <9505122027.AA22770@seism1.ess.sunysb.edu>

At 11:05 AM 5/12/95 -0400, PDouglas12@aol.com wrote:
>Nevertheless, I note that MFJ
>fills an important niche. None of the big manufacturers makes cheap QRP
>rigs, cheap tuners, cheap keyers, etc.

I agree for the rigs (if you do not want to build a kit).
For the paddles: I just bought bencher paddles last week: 55\$ (black base), compared to 45\$ for mjj ones, it is worse the 10\$ difference.
For the tuners, you can find some in the same price range: i remember that Tucker has some tuners in the <150\$ range, they look like similar to mfj ones. Anyone has information about these tuners (junk?) or other ones (I'm looking to buy one for a G5RV).

Bernard, KB2TGH

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 13 00:19:03 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 19:19:03 -0500
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <199505130019.TAA05240@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Re: made by MFJ.

Bernard, KB2TGH, asks about the Tucker tuners.

I have the Model T-1000. It works well. I opened it up to look at the insides and it is quality stuff. I think the price was in the \$140 range.

I use it in place of the MFJ-941C, which has been the best buy I've made on antenna tuners. The Tucker is much larger, but has cross-needles for instant look at forward and reflected. Only has 30 and 300W ranges, so at my measely 0.95W, the needle just barely moves. I was interested in Bob G's (I think I have that right) mention that it takes 0.1W of power to operate needle(s). I can check that this weekend by using WM-1 in front and use external dummy load, then measure output out the tuner using coax straight through. I think that makes sense. Stay tuned Bat crew.

I noted at Dayton that all the tuners not MFJ were OEM jobs made by same manufacturer. Someone probably has more info that I have on this one.

We still are in need of a good quality tuner that is the right size. Hoping the St Louis tuner will do the job.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 13 00:41:56 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 20:41:56 -0400
Message-Id: <950512204155_116892741@aol.com>
Subject: Measuring Tuner Efficiency...Thoughts

There have been QRP-L discussions on how efficient some tuner designs may be.

The first thought that comes to mind would be to place wattmeters on the input and output of the tuner and measure on all nine bands into a 50-ohm load.

That's fine but the above test only covers the tuner's efficiency into a 50-ohm load. Not good enough. Why? Most tuners are used to operate center-

or end-fed wire antennas and handle a wide variety of antenna impedances and reactances other than a flat 50 ohms.

One efficiency test would be to operate a tuner into resistive (dummy) loads of many values (perhaps 20 through 2000 ohms). Obviously a 50 ohm wattmeter will not work here, but if we know the line or load resistance of the input and output of the tuner, we should be able to measure $P=E^2/R$ at the input and output of the tuner and then compare those for efficiency (the ratio of output to input).

A good scope or frequency selective RF voltmeter could do the job.
At QRP, it should be easy to find carbon resistors of many values for loads.

As well as measuring tuner efficiency, checking a tuner using dummy loads of different values would also give very rough* ideas about how much inductance and capacitance are needed in the tuner design for it to be a useful (non-coax) matching device on ALL bands.

*(Wire antennas often have inductive and capacitive reactances which need their opposite number to be canceled out and these resistive-only tests do not account for antenna reactances.)

Would one other possible method of measuring input:output efficiency of tuners be to use RF ammeters in the input and output, again with known line impedances and loads? But.. are there any accurate RF ammeters available and will they be linear over 1.8-30 MHz?

72, Jay WB6AAM (ARCI 5050)
jcoote@aol.com
WB6AAM@K6VE.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 13:55:36 1995
From: CLATON.CADMUS@hamlink.mn.org (CLATON CADMUS)
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 13:58:18
Message-Id: <800193792.AA01683@hamlink.mn.org>
Subject: MESSAGE ID

Hello QRP-L'ers,

I, along with others on this list, gain access via a local BBS system. Many of these systems, such as this one, have message processing software that strips header information. Consequently, I cannot tell the difference from a message sent to me via the QRP list or private E-Mail. They all look the same and many cases it becomes confusing.

If you have sent me E-mail and I haven't replied, this is why. I do

reply 100% to E-mail.

I would like to make a simple request, when you send a message say hello to the list (group, gang, etc.), as I did above, and when you send an e-mail say hello to the recipient by name. Not only is this a common courtesy, it will eliminate confusion to myself and others. Also, please sign your mail including your e-mail address, some systems do not report the senders address.

Thanks and

73 de Claton Cadmus, KA0GKC

```
-----
| FIDOnet= Claton Cadmus 1:282./100 |
| INTERNet= Claton.Cadmus@hamlink.mn.org |
| PACKETnet= KA0GKC@WB0GDB.#STP.MN.USA.NA |
-----
```

* SLMR 2.1a * I've Soldered! But I didn't Inhale!

---NoSnail v1.17

HAM>link< RBBS - Serving the Amateur Radio Community Since 1983

- 612/HAM-0000 v.34 Ham Radio Spoken Here!!
- 612/HAM-1010 v.32b Reply to sender @ hamlink.mn.org

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 21:26:31 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 16:26:31 -0500
From: seront@seism1.ess.sunysb.edu (Bernard Seront)
Subject: Re: MESSAGE ID
Message-Id: <9505122025.AA22766@seism1.ess.sunysb.edu>

At 01:58 PM 5/11/95, CLATON CADMUS wrote:

>Hello QRP-L'ers,
>

>I, along with others on this list, gain access via a local BBS system.
>Many of these systems, such as this one, have message processing
>software that strips header information. Consequently, I cannot tell
>the difference from a message sent to me via the QRP list or private
>E-Mail. They all look the same and many cases it becomes confusing.

Some listserv (X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas, to name it) have the possibility to add the name of the list at

the beginning of the subject line:

subject: IRQ30 becomes

subject: [QRP-L] IRQ30

As we are about to change the listserv, we should try to have this feature.
For me it would help a lot to sort private messages from others.

Bernard, KB2TGH

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 17:31:03 1995

Date: Fri, 12 May 95 11:31:03 MDT

From: hong@usa.acsys.com (Jung Pyo Hong)

Message-Id: <9505121731.AA01158@usa.acsys.com>

Subject: mfc 6030

de kc5jkl

Does anyone have any information on a mfc 6030? it looks like
a voltage regulator ... 25v in, 13.4v out ... it is used in a
heathkit ...

thanks ... 73

kc5jkl Jung P. Hong P.O. Box 4610, Los Alamos, N.M. 87544
kc5jkl@roadrunner.com kc5jkl@usa.acsys.com
ar sk

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 19:40:34 1995

Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 13:40:34 -0600 (MDT)

From: <torell@icarus.sicom.com>

Subject: MFJ Construction

Message-Id: <Pine.3.05.9505121334.B5976-a1000000@icarus>

I bought a "300 Watt" dummy load that measured 0 ohms; a spare screw was
rattling around and had shorted the resistor out. Also, the resistor was
placed poorly in the clip-on connectors, and there was a cold solder joint
to the rf connector. The 300 watts in quotes because the resistor is
good for 20 watts continuous, and there is a time derating curve
(300 watts for 30 seconds with a long cooldown).

If you consider these to be semi-built kits, you are probably ok.

Kent Torell KJ7EY torell@sicom.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu May 11 17:58:04 1995
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 12:58:04 -0500
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <199505111758.MAA01637@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Motorola MPF131 Dual-Gate MOSFET

Gang,

Here is why this group is so terrific. I posted the availability of Motorola MPF131s and here is all that you ever need to know about these critters.

Kaye wins the ASCII graphics award and now I know what's what.

FYI

-----copies from the following-----

Ye Ol Motorola manual says:

MPF131

N-channel Dual Gate MOS Field-Effect silicon transistor

depletion mode transistor designed for VHF amplifier and mixer applications.

RF amplifier @ 60 and 200 MHZ

Max voltage , drain-source = 25 volts

Max current, drain = 30 ma.

Max power dissipation = 350 mw.

```

gate 2      ----      drain
  <===== / \ =====>
          |         |
  <===== \__o/ =====>
gate 1      source

```

top view

NOT TO SCALE
(must I tell you)

Anyway, it looks pretty cool for the price.

73

Kaye Hartman, KD8EK klh@cbqaa.cb.att.com

-----#2-----

Hi Chuck,

Nice catch - now you're going to have a headache sending them out.

MPF131 - Depletion type dual gate MOSfet with diode-protected gates
Speced as RF AMP @ 60 Mhz and 200 Mhz

Dot on plastic package indicates SOURCE lead, going counter-clockwise
from there: DRAIN, GATE2, GATE1.

Max ratings

Volts-drain-source 25

Drain Current 30 ma.

Ta= 25 degrees C 300 mW (hey its QRP!)

Gate 1 to source cutoff voltage -4.0 vDC

Gate 2 to source cutoff voltage -4.0 vDC

Zero-gate voltage drain current Idss = 3ma min, 10ma typ, 30 ma max.

Forward transfer admittance 8000 umho min, 20,000 umho max
this is biassed at Vds 10vDC, Id=10ma, 1Khz

Ciss = 4.5 pf typ, 7.0 pf max

Coss = 2.5 pf typ, 4.0 pf max

Crss = .023pf typ, .05 pf max (in-circuit capacitance usually larger than this)

Noise figure typ max

60 Mhz 2.5dB 5.0dB

200 Mhz 3.0dB 5.0dB

Power gain (common source)

60 Mhz 20dB 27dB

200 Mhz 17dB 20dB

Used as a R.F. amplifier, Gate 2 is usually set at about 4 v D.C. (unless you
want to apply A.G.C. to it).

-----from Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.CIS.McMaster.CA>-----
--
Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu May 11 21:33:27 1995
Date: Thu, 11 May 95 17:33:27 EDT
From: thorburn@gwt.xyplex.com (Gary Thorburn)
Message-Id: <9505112133.AA04820@gwt.xyplex.com>
Subject: NiCad Disposal

While on the subject of NiCads, what, praytell, is the proper way to dispose of these things? I've got a big ziploc bagfull, most of which have been Zapped a few times, now totally dead, and growing a white crystalline powder near the terminals; I don't even want to touch 'em. Where can ordinary consumers "dispose of properly".

I'm in the Boston area if anyone near here has a specific answer.

/****
* Gary W. Thorburn KD1TE
* correct email address: gthorburn@eng.xyplex.com
****/

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 14:14:33 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 09:14:33 -0500 (CDT)
From: "Perry W. Ogletree" <pogletre@mail.coin.missouri.edu>
Subject: Re: NiCad Disposal
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950512090748.27998A-1000000@bigcat>

The "white stuff" on the ends of nicads is crystalized Potasium Hydroxide and is harmless. It's the Cadmium that will "get cha'" as it is a heavy metal like lead. If the cell is intact, you are safe.

For disposal, I would suggest you contact your local Fire Departments Hazardous Materials contact. They can tell you where to dispose of the dead cells.

73 de Perry
NONMC@NOLBA.#CEMO.MO.USA.NOAM (Packet)
pogletre@mail.coin.missouri.edu (Internet)

On Thu, 11 May 1995, Gary Thorburn wrote:

>
> While on the subject of NiCads, what, praytell, is the proper way to dispose
> of these things? I've got a big ziploc bagfull, most of which have been
> Zapped a few times, now totally dead, and growing a white crystalline
> powder near he terminals; I don't even want to touch'em. Where can ordinary
> consumers "dispose of properly".
>
> I'm in the Boston area if anyone near here has a specific answer.
>
> /****
> * Gary W. Thorburn KD1TE
> * correct email address: gthorburn@eng.xyplex.com
> ****/
>
>
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 13 00:25:00 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 18:25:00 CST
Subject: NN1G
Message-Id: <21C322273@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Thanks to the folks that sent info on crystals. I never looked at
Mouser and/or Digikey.

Have been reading some comments on NN1G transceivers. I have
mentioned here that I wanted to get to the one in the 1995 Handbook
and was going to do it for 20 meters. I now will probably shift to
30 meters. I guess I am doing it just to see if I can start with
something like a board and go from there. In other words, no kit!!

I got the boards from FAR and they are great. The boards are silk-
screened so there is no problem about what goes where.

NOW----if you read the blurb that comes from ARRL on alignment, etc
of the transceiver, look closely at the printing on the page with the
receiver board. I do not have the page right here but as I remember,
the receiver board is dated "11/94" and the transmit board is dated
"12/94". On the receiver page is the marking "NN1G Transceiver, Mk
III".

So, as far as I am concerned, the single board rig written up in QST in Novmber, 1994, was not the Mark III but is something else.

Dave did respond to my Email and told me what type crystals to get and also that his case is for the single board rig, which I got from the NE club.

72 & 73 de Tim WB9NLZ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 11:32:40 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 09:02:40 -0230
Message-Id: <199505121132.JAA05967@public.compuser.net>
From: rgobrick@public.compuser.net (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: Re: NN1G Mark xx Rigs

Hi LB,

Well it may have not been fair to call the NN1G SWL-xx a stripped down package (maybe a new design based on an old design) but the Mark II has 4 xtals in the IF and an actual IF (MC1350) stage where the SWL units, which were built for the sake of simplicity as bare minimum designs, only have 2 xtals in their IF filter and NO IF amp stage. Again these were Dave NN1G's (and the New England QRP Club) guidelines that were layed down for the SWL-xx rigs. And by the way for the bands 160-30 meters the SWL-xx's perform surprising well for the parts count etc (far better than most direct conversion designs for the parts count).

Now if you are talking about "reserved volume" (engineering term - hi) to retrofit the NN1G Mark II boards (2 boards) in place of the 1 SWL board than yes that is a possiblity. The Two Mark II (tongue twister) boards are bigger than the SWL-xx board but you are able to "stack" the Mark II boards (this is too complicated I need another cup of coffee- hi). I would not recommend trying to "jury-rig" the Mark II circuitry into an already built SWL-xx - too many problems with grounding etc.

So there is some feedback - and for a "real" answer you may want to drop the designer NN1G Dave Benson a note on email - Dave is a helpful qrp'er (as are all the NEW ENGLAND QRP'er's - hi)

Good luck - keep us informed of your "W4RNL All-In-One rig" design (you are going to have a CW decoder on boarder with LCD readout so we can all copy Chuck K5Fo's 65 wpm - aren't you????)

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>Bob,
>
>Can you specify in what ways the SWL-xx rigs are stripped down? That is,
>what is missing relative to the Mark IIA board pair? Am planning out an
>all-in-one package and thinking of XCVR boards, and the SWL-30 seems
>compact, but would add space if the Mark IIA has some significant
>advantages. Others on QRP-L might also be interested in the feature
>comparison.
>
>-73-
>LB, W4RNL
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 03:18:01 1995
From: rohrwerk@netcom.com (John Seboldt)
Message-Id: <199505120318.UAA22116@netcom23.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: PEP measurement
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 20:18:01 -0700 (PDT)

I said:
>
> >Boy, I don't know where folks got this. Check the regs, it's there.
> >1500W pep. Period. 1500 watts average power at the peak of an SSB
> >signal, or 1500 watts continuous carrier (=1500W PEP). Also 1500W PEP on
>
> >an AM signal, meaning a lower carrier power on AM (this makes the AM
> >boatanchor folks *very* unhappy).

And w8jitom@aol.com (W8JI Tom) said:

> I know where they got it. PEP is the peak RMS power. The other power used
> is the short term AVERAGE RMS power. They get confused and think the
> AVERAGE RMS power is just the RMS power, and the PEP is just the peak
> power and not the peak RMS power. On CW of course the short term average
> RMS power is exactly equal to the PEP power, but somehow that is
> confusing.
>
> And it is very common.

You've compounded the confusion! What we are after is the AVERAGE POWER AT THE PEAK OF A WAVEFORM, whether continuously varying as in a voice signal or relatively steady as in a carrier.

From the ARRL Handbook, 1988 edn, page 2-13:

"The terms RMS, average and peak have different meanings when they refer to AC power. The reason is that while voltage and current are sinusoidal functions of time, power is the product of voltage and current, and this product is a sine squared function. The mathematical operations that define RMS, average, and so on will naturally yield different results when applied to this new function. The relationships between ac voltage, current and power follow:

RMS voltage x RMS current = average power <does not equal> RMS power.

The average power used to heat a resistor is equal to the DC power required to produce the same heat. RMS power is a mathematical curiosity and has no physical significance. (underlines mine :-)

[a few cuts, then] In the context of radio signals, then, peak power means maximum average power. Peak envelope power (PEP) is the parameter most often used to express the maximum signal-handling capability of a linear amplifier. To compute the PEP of a waveform ... multiply the PEV (peak envelope voltage) by 0.707 to obtain the RMS value [of the VOLTAGE], square the result and divide by the load resistance."

```
: John Seboldt      rohrwerk@netcom.com /      I am Bach of Borg...
: Amateur radio K0JD... /      your style will be
: Church of the Annunciation, /      assimilated.
: Minneapolis      /
```

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 13 04:47:42 1995
From: rohrwerk@netcom.com (John Seboldt)
Message-Id: <199505130447.VAA27651@netcom8.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: PEP measurement
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 21:47:42 -0700 (PDT)

Yes, it was a bit unclear what was humorous and what was not. That's what smileys are for :-) <wink wink, nudge nudge>

"Average envelope power" sounds nice, if well defined. This is the kind of power that would vary with the amount of speech clipping/compression in an SSB waveform (the actual PEP remaining constant). But then, yes, you do have to turn around and talk about "average power" at the peak of this varying waveform. What to do <sigh>?

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@netcom.com / CW: It don't mean a thing

: Amateur radio K0JD... / if it ain't got that swing!
: Church of the Annunciation, / Di dah, di dah, di dah, di dah...
: Minneapolis / (sorry, Duke!)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 03:06:05 1995
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 23:06:05 -0400
Message-Id: <95051123060491@sescva.esc.edu>
From: pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu (PETER CALCANDY)
Subject: QRP CAMPING WEEKEND SPECIAL EVENT STATION

The Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club (LIMARC), the LIMARC Jr Ops, and the LIMARC HEAVY HITTERS QRP Group will operate N2LSK from their campsite at North Lake, New York (nr Haines Falls in the Catskill Mountains). The Dates and hours are as follows:

June 3 0000z - 0400z (friday june 2 from 8PM to Midnite Eastern time)
June 3 1200z - 2200z (saturday june 3 from 8AM to 6PM Eastern time)
June 4 0000z - 0400z (saturday june 3 from 8PM to Midnite Eastern time)
June 4 1200z - 1600z (sunday june 4 from 8AM to 12 noon Eastern time)

Operation will be on 7.040 Mhz. and 14.060 Mhz. both days.

For a special certificate please send your QSL card to Mr. Jix, N2JIX, Rob Torado, 2218 East 73 Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11234.

For further information via I-net, please contact Peter, N2KPY (pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu).

- - - - -
S P E C I A L A N N O U N C E M E N T

Norm, K2YEW the founder of the LIMARC HEAVY HITTERS QRP Group will be operating as VK2IDU throughout Australia during June. Please watch for a schedule in the coming days.

- - - - -
72 & 73
Peter N2KPY (pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 04:12:16 1995
From: Leew5TEH@aol.com

Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 00:12:16 -0400
Message-Id: <950511200635_115574817@aol.com>
Subject: qrp dx 30 mtrs

This is a very slow dx spot.

Dx was good for qrp on 30m last night and right now (0001Z) (thursday nite in states) is great. no pileups and sigs good.
worked italy and bolivia. sorry for rush but get them while they are hot!

(I know, I got a good qth - RI - but my antenna is still busted from winter!)

72/73 Lee W5teh

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 03:37:47 1995
From: rohrwerk@netcom.com (John Seboldt)
Message-Id: <199505120337.UAA24824@netcom23.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: QSK TR Circuit
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 20:37:47 -0700 (PDT)

> At Dayton I found all the parts to build the W1FB QSK T/R switch found on
> page 141 of the _QRP Notebook_. As I look at the circuit more closely
> now, I see that there is both a "+12V" and a "+12V Transmit 60 mA" on the
> schematic. Does this mean that I need 12 V @ 60 mA from my transmitter
> each time I key it? Or is this voltage applied to the circuit all the time?
> I can't visualize how the diodes are being biased in this circuit,
> perhaps one of you can explain it...
>
> 73 Mike, AA2UJ
> mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com

Yes, you have to have a keyed 12V source in sync with your TX's keying,
possibly stolen from your TX's keying transistor.

The whole thing serves as a kind of SPDT solid state switch. the schematic
is pretty clear what diodes are on or off in RX or TX states.

I think the upper pair of diodes is kind of overkill myself -- the one that
shuts off the path to the transmitter when receiving. All you really need is
the receiver protection diodes -- the lower pair and its associated
circuits.

You may, however, wish to have some independent control over the switching
time of the diodes and their associated switch. I have a 2-transistor
switch that controls a diode pair to protect the receiver -- when you ground
the key line, it turns off the switch and protects the RX, thus can be

connected with an isolating diode to most key lines that have a + voltage puled to ground. You can just add a capacitor to make sure the switch stays off until the TX keying waveform has completely decayed to zero. I can send folks this schematic as a PostScript file (or its creator a Mac Microsoft Word file for those who can handle this).

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@netcom.com / CW: It don't mean a thing
: Amateur radio K0JD... / if it ain't got that swing!
: Church of the Annunciation, / Di dah, di dah, di dah, di dah...
: Minneapolis / (sorry, Duke!)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 17:07:00 1995
From: Johnson Russ <JohnsonR@ind2.indy.tce.com>
Subject: Re. On Line Catalog
Date: Fri, 12 May 95 10:07:00 PDT
Message-Id: <2FB395C9@MSMAIL.INDY.TCE.COM>

HRO is now on line with a catalog the address is:

<http://www.hamradio.com/>

73,
Russ Johnson
johnsonr@indy.tce.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu May 11 15:43:53 1995
From: FOXG@WCSUB.CTSTATEU.EDU
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 11:43:53 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <950511114353.2120c445@WCSUB.CTSTATEU.EDU>
Subject: ready to buy

I just got my new (April!) QRP Quarterly yesterday. Was fascinated by the cover article on the TAC1. However, no address given! Does anyone have anything else to report about this rig, especially if the 20 meter incarnation is available.

Also, I'm interested in more info on the newly privatized Sierra. I know there was a long message about it a month or so ago, but it got trashed through call waiting. I did have a chance to see, not operate, a Sierra at the NE QRP meeting at the league a few months back. It looked phenomenal.

73, Geoff WA1U

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 13 04:24:21 1995
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re: ready to buy
Date: Fri, 12 May 95 23:24:21 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1995May12.232421.29070@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

Thanks for pointing out that I neglected to include the manufacturers address in my review of the S&S TAC-1 transceiver in the April QRP Quarterly. I think I did the same thing in my review of their ARK-4 a few issues back. Here it is--

S&S Engineering
14102 Brown Road
Smithsburg, MD 21783

I asked Dick at Dayton how the 40 meter version was coming (it's only available for 80 so far), and the answer was that's still coming... He told me earlier that he plans to eventually build them for several different bands.

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 16:34:13 1995
From: KB7ZZ@aol.com
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 12:34:13 -0400
Message-Id: <950512120819_116348440@aol.com>
Subject: s

subscribe qrp-l kb7zz@aol.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 22:12:46 1995
From: wbarnes@earth.geology.ubc.ca
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 15:12:46 -0700
Message-Id: <199505122212.PAA02906@unixg.ubc.ca>
Subject: Solar power

With fine weather generally here, the solstice only 6 weeks away and the recent Field Day discussion, I thought I would put in a plug for my favorite source of solar panels and all the related low-voltage DC goodies that go with.

My house is on an island, and the distance to the nearest power line made a solar electric system the only way I could afford to get power. As a result I have dealt with a variety of sources of solar/DC equipment and have found only one that I can recommend without reservation. That is:

Backwoods Solar Electric Systems
8530 Rapid Lightning Creek Road
Sandpoint, ID 83864
(208) 263-4290 [0800-1800 PST]

The company is run by Steve and Elizabeth Willey (KC7BX and WB7VAD). Both are knowledgeable, pleasant and accommodating, and their prices are almost always significantly less than the competition. They carry solar panels in both the permanent, glass faced styles and in the flexible variety designed for light weight and portability--can be fixed to the flap of your backpack for example. All sizes from 3 x 5 card size for charging small Nicads to biggies producing more than 4 amps under ideal conditions.

Steve is an electronics engineer and has designed and built some of the charge controllers and other equipment they sell. He has also been able to answer every question I came up with, and there were quite a few when I started out. They have a catalog that has lots of useful information for those just starting out in solar power. If you are interested in solar power or if, like I, it is an economically feasible alternative to the power grid, I recommend you get to know Steve and Elizabeth.

72 de Bill <VE7MEW>

William Barnes, Dept. Geological Sciences, Univ. British Columbia,
Vancouver, Canada V6T 1Z4 <wbarnes@earth.geology.ubc.ca> VE7MEW

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 21:53:19 1995
Message-Id: <9505122156.AA06931@garnet.inel.gov>
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 15:53:19 -0600
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: Something GOOD about MFJ

To the QRP-L list: (as per someone's request...)

With all the comments about MFJ's poor quality, I just had to get my two bits worth in: They will send you a FREE MANUAL for any of their products, no questions asked. However, most of their manuals are no more than a few sheets of xeroxed paper and some are completely worthless...

72, Larry W1HUE/7
LVE1@inel.gov

"Any opinions expressed herein are my own and probably do
not agree with those of my employer, the U.S. Government
or my spouse"

--... ..--

Larry V. East (W1HUE)
Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
e-mail: LVE1@inel.gov
voice: (208) 533-4005 fax: (208) 533-4207

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 13 05:58:04 1995
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re: Something GOOD about MFJ
Date: Sat, 13 May 95 00:58:04 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1995May13.005804.11456@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

I asked for the manual for one of the MFJ QRP transceivers a couple years back, and it was far from a small, almost useless photocopy! (Wish all their "manuals" were that good.) And let's not forget that this is not MFJs first fling with QRP--as I seem to recall, they also had a couple of QRP items in the late 70's or thereabouts. 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 06:28:40 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 00:28:40 -0600 (MDT)
From: Steve Henry <steveh@fortnet.org>
Subject: Surface mount techniques

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505120059.A17495-0100000@linden.fortnet.org>

Thanks to all that are responding to my request for surface mount techniques (both pro and con). I'm motivated enough now to give it a try as well as to see how realistically it will apply to QRP transceiver designs. I'm planning on paying special attention to how to get torroids, crystals, and connectors, etc small enough to make surface mount worth it for QRP design (which may not be feasible but worth an investigation report, anyway).

'72

Steve Henry
AA0VB
Fort Collins, Colorado.

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu May 11 14:19:57 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 10:19:57 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <950511101957.2024b99e@carib.vf.mmc.com>
Subject: Re: Surface mount techniques?

BoB,

I think that if we had another Great Dayton Homebrew Competition, it should be something using surface-mount components. And.....we oughta chagre admission for the audience! That would be a super sight to see all us old farts tring to see those danged little parts 8-) 8-). There would probably have to be some kinda incentive points for anybody over 30!

BTW, I got a great deal on surface mount varicaps at the Hamvention AND I picked up a four inch lens on a large frame just so I could see the blasted little flyspecs.

72/73,

Joe E. N@CX

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 03:46:43 1995
From: rohrwerk@netcom.com (John Seboldt)
Message-Id: <199505120346.UAA26072@netcom23.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Surface mount techniques?
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 20:46:43 -0700 (PDT)

> Does anyone on this list have any experience at doing homebrew building
> with surface mount components? I'm wondering how well the "ugly
> construction" technique will work with these parts or if there are other
> ways with commonly available equipment to assemble circuits out of these
> parts-- thanks in advance for any ideas.
>
> '72
>
> Steve Henry
> AA0VB
> Fort Collins, Colorado

Well, you can't really "ugly construct", but you can easily lay out a circuit board by carefully laying the parts out and marking for etching accordingly. You can use your knife, moto-tool, or standard etching techniques, as you wish.

I don't use surface mount much, but I did assemble a little MMIC preamp kit as my first intro to SM. That made me re think my assembly techniques for most projects: I now do most of my foil etching on the TOP side of the board, even with conventional leaded parts, so changes or repairs are easier.

But the SM bug keeps nibbling away at the back of my mind every time I see the listings of surface mount parts in the DigiKey or Mouser catalogs. Someday I'll invest in a stock of basic values. A cursory survey of the DigiKey catalog also showed a number of suitable transistors for ham work -- including MOSFETS! Surely room for more experimentation.

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@netcom.com / I am Bach of Borg...
: Amateur radio K0JD... / your style will be
: Church of the Annunciation, / assimilated.
: Minneapolis /

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 02:41:03 1995
From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Message-Id: <9505120241.AA00305@philadelphia.libertynet.org>
Subject: The 74-HC-4046
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 22:41:03 -0400 (EDT)

Has anyone tried using this PLL ship in the BFO section of your superhet receiver or maybe the VFO?

Just wondering.

72, 73 and thanks.

--

Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Internet: adam@libertynet.org

God is real, unless he is declared as an integer.

-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----

Version: 2.6.2

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=J0fv

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From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat May 13 00:42:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 20:42:00 -0400
Message-Id: <950512204159_116892802@aol.com>
Subject: Thoughts on center- vs. end-fed wires

A ham in an antenna newsgroup once asked me "Which all-band wire antenna is better, center- or end-fed?"

Here are my opinions and observations. I will admit a little bias in favor of allband wire antennas which are operated through a tuner, and which have features such as simple deployment, easy concealment and greater chance the antenna will work in unknown situations.

End-fed wire...Advantages:

The end-fed is perhaps the easiest antenna to set up in unknown portable or emergency situations. Generally, only a single support is required at the far end of the wire. A dull-colored thin wire is easily to lead through a window, compared to coax and balanced feedlines. The end-fed may be weighted and dangled down (hey, it's still a vertical!) from a high-rise balcony.

The end-fed can get by with a simpler tuner, the L-network. The L-network tuner uses only a series inductor (switched or roller) and a shunt capacitor between antenna and chassis at the output.

End-fed wire... Disadvantages:

In some indoor setups some of the antenna wire may run along or inside the building with the possibility of less performance or RFI in consumer devices.

Impedances and reactances vary, and the tuner or antenna wire in the shack may be "hot" with RF- the user may have to experiment with varying antenna

and counterpoise length, or attaching a 1/4 wave radial for the "trouble" frequencies.

Center-fed wire... Advantages:

A center-fed wire antenna using balanced TV or "ladder" line allows the designer to get all of the antenna up and away from the shack in many cases- less probability of RFI and better coverage when the antenna is higher or in the clear. Though more obtrusive, a center-fed using 300-ohm TV line as the feeder could be concealed (say, as part of the guying of a TV mast) With the balanced nature of the feedline there is less possibility of RF in the shack or hot chassis. Center-fed antennas in the clear may allow better control of the radiation pattern, examples being the zepp and extended zepp which have legs of 1/2 or 5/8 wave and a figure-8 pattern on the primary band.

Center-fed wires...Disadvantages:

Because of a 300 ohm ribbon, or 450-ohm ladder line in the center, these antennas are harder to conceal in some installations. More consideration must be given to supports and the weight of the antenna and feedline. The antenna wire must now support it's own weight plus the weight of the feedline. A tuner with a balun must be used.

Both antennas are not DX monsters, but each has advantages when it comes to all-band use, fast setup time, concealment and emergency communications.

72, Jay WB6AAM
jcoote@aol.com
WB6AAM@K6VE.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu May 11 12:44:30 1995
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 05:44:30 -0700 (PDT)
From: H Smith <hbs@crl.com>
Subject: TI DSK DSP Information
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950511053238.11823A-100000@crl4.crl.com>

Ok, here is the info on the TI DSP Starter Kit (TI DSK).

If you have a recent ARRL Handbook, there is a chapter on Digital Signal Processing that may whet your appetite.

I have created some simple low, high, and passband filters (IIR and FIR) which I have used with the ham stuff. My next project is a CW noise filter and a CW enhancer. Then there is also the Coherent CW project.

There is other code on the internet.

The W9GR code that I have is a port of the original to the TI DSK. I don't know about the recent code. And, I don't know anything about the Radio Shack.

So, here is the info.

Smitty, NA5K

Henry Smith (hbs@crl.com)

Info on the TI DSK

There are two kits, the 'C26 DSK which is based on the TMS320C26 processor and the 'C50 DSK which is based on the TMS320C50 processor.

You could say that the 'C50 is the next generation up from the 'C26 in that it has more memory and is faster. Both are fixed point (as opposed to floating point) processors and will do just about any DSP trick that you want. Both chips have built-in memory.

The boards are small, approximately 2.5 X 4 inches and have the necessary A/D and D/A chip (TLC3240).

There is an analog input and output (rca jacks) and a serial connector (9 pin RS232). You have to supply a 9VAC plug-in-the-wall (Radio Shack) power supply.

TI supplies a simple Assembler and a Debugger. They also throw in a loader and a couple of sample programs. No, there is not a 'C' compiler :-)

You connect the 9VAC (notice AC) power supply, attach a cable from the board to your serial port on your PC and then you can download or debug programs.

There are quite a few Ham type programs for the 'C26 DSK on the internet. 'C26 programs can be converted to 'C50 programs with some effort.

The cost is \$99.00. I am not sure what the availability is at this time (Wyle, Marshall, Arrow, etc)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 15:21:39 1995

Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 11:21:39 -0400 (EDT)
From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@govonca2.gov.on.ca>
Subject: Toronto area QRP club meeting
Message-Id: <Pine.OSF.3.90.950512111445.25195A-100000@govonca2>

Hello. Please let me announce that the monthly meeting of the Durham Region QRP Club will be held this coming Tuesday May 16 @ 7:30 p.m. This club welcomes new attendees and members. If you are in the GTA (Greater Toronto Area) of Toronto, Durham/York Regions, Scarborough etc. please feel welcome to join in and attend.

We meet at the Progress Campus of Centennnial College (Markham Rd., south of Hwy. 401) in the 3rd Floor electronics lab in the D Wing. Just look for the open door to the room with test gear and some hams! (Room 305-D I think).

If you want more info, please e-mail me.

72

Brien Pepperdine

VE3VAW

Toronto

pepperb@gov.on.ca

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 12 12:14:00 1995
Message-Id: <9505121216.AA00925@ig1.att.att.com>
From: mvjfm@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton 508 960 2577)
Date: 12 May 95 08:14:00 -0400
Subject: Transmatch

What is all this noise about transmatches ?

Most only operate on one band (or no bands) anyway.

For a single band, the Transmatch on page 167 of Solid State Design (ARRL) works great with a single wire, random wire antenna.

I use Tiny 100 pf caps, and a single toroid that can be housed in a very small plastic box.

For further compactness;
Instead of an output connector, use a 1 foot
piece of RG174 cable, soldered to the tuner on
one end, and a BNC (to the xmtr) on the other.

The matcher can be made incredibly small, if
the swr indicator portion is left out.

For matching very low power levels, I used a bridge like the one
on page 150, and removed it after matching, and before operating.
It takes about .1 watt of precious output power to move that meter.

Experiment with lengths of antenna wire and use 1/4 wave
counterpoise radials, and stick with lengths that work best
and require little adjusting at different locations.

Does it work ? Is it efficient ?

From my hotel room in CA, I contacted many stations including
some on the east coast, while using a NorCal-40 and QRP-NE 40-40.

72 W1FMR

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu May 11 12:17:57 1995
Message-Id: <199505111217.IAA17189@jfwhome.funhouse.com>
Subject: Re: VERY LONG, Z-Match Transmatch Circuit
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 08:17:57 -0400
From: "John F. Woods" <jfw@jfwhome.funhouse.com>

Bob Gobrick mentioned:

> the Z match looks like a simple project with some weird old parts -
> 500p single gang var cap, dual gang 350p var cap and coil.

Hmm. You know, it occurs to me that it may soon come to the point where
it is cheaper and easier to build tuners, at least for modest power levels,
using reed relays, fixed capacitors, and a small microprocessor than to
use fancy air-gap N-gang variable capacitors. Does anyone know where to
get reed relays good to 1KV of signal?

73, John, WB7EEL

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 11:15:02 1995
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 08:45:02 -0230

Message-Id: <199505121115.IAA05735@public.compusult.nf.ca>
From: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: Re: VERY LONG, Z-Match Transmatch Circuit

John,

I'm not sure if what you suggested was "tongue in cheek" but if you look at the SGC and Icom AH1,2,3 single wire remote antenna tuners that is about what they do - now to make those into surface mounted parts for QRP - does anyone know of where to get surface mounted relays good to 1 KV of signal?

73/72 bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>Bob Gobrick mentioned:

>> the Z match looks like a simple project with some weird old parts -
>> 500p single gang var cap, dual gang 350p var cap and coil.

>

>Hmm. You know, it occurs to me that it may soon come to the point where
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>using reed relays, fixed capacitors, and a small microprocessor than to
>use fancy air-gap N-gang variable capacitors. Does anyone know where to
>get reed relays good to 1KV of signal?

>

>73, John, WB7EEL

>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 22:35:01 1995
From: wbarnes@earth.geology.ubc.ca
Date: Fri, 12 May 1995 15:35:01 -0700
Message-Id: <199505122235.PAA05129@unixg.ubc.ca>
Subject: White stuff on Nicads

Perry Ogletree said:

>The "white stuff" on the ends of nicads is crystalized Potasium Hydroxide
>and is harmless. It's the Cadmium that will "get cha'" as it is a heavy
>metal like lead. If the cell is intact, you are safe.

Potassium hydroxide is a very strong base that is very effective at hydrolyzing proteins, including skin, eyes, etc. Don't panic if you get it on you, but _do_ wash it off immediately and be careful not to rub your eyes. Perry is quite right that the Cd in the batteries is very poisonous. Most medium and large size cities here in North America have hazardous waste disposal facilities. Call your local recycling hotline for information. Depending on local regulations in your

area you may be able to return the batteries to the store where you purchased them, where they will be held for pickup and recycling or safe disposal. Most batteries contain materials that are harmful to the environment. The exceptions are the (relatively) benign small carbon-zinc cells in either their standard or alkaline forms.

72 de Bill <VE7MEW>

William Barnes, Dept. Geological Sciences, Univ. British Columbia,
Vancouver, Canada V6T 1Z4 <wbarnes@earth.geology.ubc.ca> VE7MEW

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 03:55:51 1995
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re: Why people get unsubscribed
Date: Thu, 11 May 95 22:55:51 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1995May11.225551.20953@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

Mike--thanks for confirming that the qrp-l/QRP-L in the subscribe message is NOT case sensitive. I'll continue to advertise it as QRP-L, upper case, to eliminate any possible confusion, and suggest that everyone else do the same. 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 12 00:03:57 1995
Date: Thu, 11 May 1995 16:03:57 -0800 (PST)
From: CHARLIE LOFGREN <CLOFGREN@BENSON.MCKENNA.EDU>
Subject: Re: Z-Match Transmatch Circuit
Message-Id: <01HQDQ9WIDQU000FGO@BENSON.MCKENNA.EDU>

I noticed W4RNL's posting about my article in Communications Quarterly on the "IBZ-Match." I have another design that's equally--actually, more--suitable for QRP purposes and is appearing (I believe) in a forthcoming issue of QRP Quarterly. It's a single-coil z-match with some modifications for improving output balance, impedance range, and efficiency. It uses either a T-130-6 or T-157-6 toroid, so can fit in a small enclosure.

Fred, W5QJM, who recently sent me the photos of the version of it he's put together, tells me it's given him good results--as it has me. In another posting, Dr. Rick mentioned he had put his iteration of it into service. Sadly, I don't have an ASCII version of the schematic.

Joe, N2CX, asked about efficiency (loss) figures. I've done some testing of the design with the technique that Frank Witt, AI1H, described in QST for April and May. Efficiency varies depending on the output impedance and frequency, it but holds up well from about 30 ohms to 1000 ohms. The full impedance range of the new tuner is somewhere from 5 or 10 ohms up to about 6000 to 8000, depending on composition of the load (R and X) and frequency. At either end of the range, the loss increases, but no more than with some other designs. (To assist me in an earlier test that pointed to the same result, Cam, N6GA--my Claremont, CA, neighbor--pulled out the *big* amplifier that normally gathers dust. We got arcing in the caps before there was any sign of core heating.)

Exact loss figures?? The problem in giving exact figures with Frank's technique is that the method requires precise and very accurate SWR measurements in the range between about 1.5:1 and 2.5:1. The accuracy of the instrument should be better than 2 or 3 percent, but ham-grade SWR analyzers (my MFJ-249 and RF-1, for example) have a margin of error of up to 10 percent. So a reading of 2.0:1 may mean an actual SWR figure of anywhere between 1.8:1 and 2.2:1, which (when one cranks the data through Witt's formulas) translates into a range of possible loss from 0.0 to to 0.7 dB. And calibrating the instruments with known resistances as loads, while helpful, doesn't insure accurate correction factors when the loads are complex impedances. But as Frank has remarked to me, even with instruments accurate only within +/- 10 percent, one can spot major problems in tuners. I recommend his technique, especially for anyone interested in saving every milliwatt--as we all should be.

Anyhow, judged by loss tests using AI1H's technique, my version of the single-coil design tends to outperform the tuner I described in Communications Quarterly (with satisfactory output balance), and it doesn't require the four-section tuning cap. Because the new article hasn't yet been published, I probably shouldn't distribute the text on the net (besides, it's too long), but I'll e-mail it to anyone interested (sans schematic). Send an s.a.s.e (1934 Rosemount Ave., Claremont, CA 91711), and I'll slow-mail the schematic.

Charlie, W6JJZ
clofgren@benson.mckenna.edu